Fast erosion of sea beach in Orissa

1229. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a fast erosion of sea beach along the Puri/ Gopalpur coast in Orissa and it needs immediate preventive measures by the Centre;

(b) whether the Central Government has formulated certain action plan to address this problem; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Flood Management and erosion control being a State subject, the schemes for flood and erosion control are planned, funded and executed by State Governments themselves as per their own priorities. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

Government of Orissa have prepared two schemes, namely (i) Coastal Protection of Puri Sea Beach from Sterling Hotel site to Hotel Cocopalm (total length 980 metres) at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.96 crore and (ii) Protection of Mangala River Mouth at Puri Sea Beach near Sterling Hotel at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.99 crore. These schemes have been technically examined in Central Water Commission and comments sent to State Government or Orissa for compliance.

Hydropower projects in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand

1230. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank which is financing the Rampur Hydropower Project in Himachal Pradesh and the Vishnugad Pipalkoti Project in Uttarakhand has in its study report called for a river basin-wise approach;

(b) if so, whether the study commissioned by the States in January 2007, has recommended a basin-wise approach in Sutlej and Alaknanda river basins which will optimize energy production and minimize environment and social impact;

(c) if so, whether Government has considered these suggestions; and

(d) if so, what time final decision in this regard is likely tobe taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The report in respect of "River Basin Development Optimization Study" conducted by the World Bank under Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF) grant *inter-alia* includes discussion on "River Basin Planning - An Opportunity for India". The report states that a new generaton of river basin planning is emerging with a holistic approach that seeks to integrate potential environmental and social costs into the planning and implementation process. It further states that "this rich world-wide experience provides India with an opportunity to incorporate into current practice in the hydropower sector a holistic approach to river basin development